A True

RELATION

OF THE

EXPEDITION made into the Province of *CONAUGH*, by the BRITISH Army of *VLSTER*,

1645.

Published by Authority.

London, Printed for *R. W.* 1645.

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THe most of the Regiments having recieved the moneths victual sent them from the Parliament, and also by Letters from the Committee of both Kingdoms being Ordered to send 500 men into *Conaugh*, in pursuance thereof, and of a former resolution taken at their late Counsell of War, held at *Antrim*, to advance the service against the *Irish* Rebels by all meanes possible, within their powers and abilities.

Upon the 17. and 18. of *June*, they advanced out of their severall quarters with about 4000 Foot, and 600 Horse (not being able to march with Ordnance, or any more force of Horse or Foot for want of Car-

riage Horses, either to draw their Ordinance, or carry their provisions, the Souldiers we marched withall being necessitated to carry most of their provisions upon their backs) being but twenty four dayes victuall.

We kept Randezvous neere the *Augher* the 20. of *June*, where the Commanders ordered their march, and devided their Foot into Brigades, and the Troopes into Squadrons, and recieved orders (by consent for that expedition) from Sir *Robert Stewart*.

On *Monday* they past over at *Eniskillin*, and thence sent a partee of five hundred Foot, and one hundred Horse to *Jamestowne* over the *Mosses*, the neerest way, with orders to joyne with the *Conaugh* Forces, in the Garrisons thereabouts, and to advance into the County of *Roscomon* to seek for a prey for reliefe of the Army, and to keep randezvous five or six dayes after, with the Army at *Bellinafad* neere the Abby of *Boyle*.

The body marched towards *Mannor-Hamilton* the 24. of *June*, and sent out a partee of Horse commanded by the Lord *Montgomerie*, who advanced to the borders of the County of *Mayo*, and understanding by two Souldiers they took prisoners, which were of Captaine *Burnewells* Troop, that the Country was all deserted, and the Inhabitants and Souldiers had betaken themselves to flight towards *Galloway*, or to their Castles.

His Lordship attended the Armies coming up at *Aghacorry*, neere which place, severall Castles were kept by the Rebels, which fired upon the Partee in their passage by, but most of them were either taken by the Army, as they marched up; or deserted by the Enemy: Amongst which, one strong Castle, held by Captaine

taine *O-Hara* was assaulted by the Souldiers without command, who at a halt neere it, at twelve of the clock, seeing some poultrie under the walls, went down to provide for their dinners, and some shots being made from the Castle, such as had Armes made response, which caused the rest to take Allarum, and after an houres service, and two or three killed, and some hurt without and within, they forced the rampire, to put fire to the gate: whereupon quarter was earnestly called for, and granted; but without Conditions, but at discretion: good store of Provision, and Armes were found there, and some Ammunition, and about fifty Cowes within the rampire, their Horse were taken the night before by our Horse guard, and some Horsemen with Carbaines, that were taken up behinde those upon the guard, and put downe to Foot neere the Castle to fetch them from under the walls, which was effected.

Upon this example, the Castle of *Abby-Court* was surrendred, and both burnt.

Divers other holds (of which I neither remember the names, nor the particular times) but I suppose them to be about twenty or upwards, were taken or quit in this Expedition: This was upon the 28. of *June*.

The next day we marched towards our Randezvous at *Ballinasad*, where our Partee came in with a prey of five hundred Cowes, and the *Conaught* Horse joyned with us, being five good Troopes, besides a hundred Dragooners; there a resolution was taken to send out a Partee of a thousand Musquiters, and sixty Horse, under the command of Sir *James Montgomery*, into the

County of *Mayo*, and Major *Rawden* with two hundred of the *Ulster* Horse, and three hundred of the *Conaugh* Horse and Dragooners, commanded by Captaine *Grimsby*, and Captaine *Coote*, were sent out into the Counties of *Roscomon* and *Galloway*, with orders to keep rendezvous at the bridge of *Shrohill*, eight miles from *Galloway*, with Sir *James Montgomeries* partee, which was fully performed, and much prey taken by the Horse partee, of Cowes, Sheepe, and Horses, and a peaceable Country that had not felt the tast of War before, deserted and burnt, without any considerable resistance, but some Horse men that issued out of Castles, whether they had retired, and from whence we failed not of salutations, as often as we came within distance of their shot.

We past by *Tuam*, which did us no more harme than to shew their bloody Colours, our Dragooners taking the shelter of a Ditch, to keep them from firing at us so often as they desired.

After we had met with the Foot party, as we marched by the Castle of *Shrohill*, two or three Troops of Horse drew up neer the Castle, and about two hundred Foot, who sent to us that they were the Earle of *Clanrickards* Tenants and Servants, that only were there to defend that House, and that they had never been in Rebellion, and therefore desired us to spare burning his Lands, for they intended not to offend us. So we passed by them, and by long marches through the County of *Mayo*, where we found *Bally-Robe* and divers other good places ruined and burnt by our Party in their Advance.

We

We came to the Army at *Sligo*, the ninth of *July*, who had gained the Town two or three dayes before, after two dayes battery with three or foure Peeces they took from aboard the Ships that brought the Presidents of *Conaugh* provision: About an 100 of the Irish party were slaine, and heere is many had quarter, of Souldiers and Inhabitants. Our Party lost about 12 Souldiers at the entring of the breach, and three or foure more were hurt. It was bravely attained, and well defended, and will be much better heere after (as is hoped) by the Five hundred we left there under the Command of Sir *Robert Stewart*, it being of very much consequence to the service in that Province. The next day we divided the prey, which was about fifteen hundred head of Cattle, being all left of three thousand that had been brought in, part of which were left for reliefe of *Sligo*, and the rest allotted for the most part for provision to the Souldiers in their march home, their provision being spent, and having some sixe dayes, some ten dayes to march to their quarters. The *Conaugh* Troops had no more then one or two nights provision in Cattle, but very gallantly quit their shares to the stranger, *Ulster* Forces.

The 11. of *July* we marched homewards by the way of *Drumahaire*, a strong house kept by the Enemy, and sent two or three Peeces by water up the *Lough* to speak a Parley with that Garrison, which they had the wit to prevent, and surrendred upon fair Conditions, which was given them in respect for the good

usage

usage divers British prisoners have found there. There a Garrison was put in of fifty men, and a Lieutenant. And from thence we marched the next day by *Manor-Hamilton*, and the 13th. were neer *Eniskillin*, over as bad a passage as the *Alpes*, and so at last by long and weary marches we came neerer our quarters, and by the way sent a party of an hundred and fifty Horse to the walls of *Charlemont*, who very narrowly missed their Troop, Horses and Cowes, which they were driving in with much haste and feare.

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